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The Mercury.

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NEWPORT, R. I.

THE NEWPORT MERCURY was established in June, 1758, and is now in its one hundred and forty-fourth year. It is the oldest newspaper in the Union, and, with less than half a dozen exceptions, the oldest printed in the English language. It is a large quarto weekly of forty-eight columns filled with interesting reading—editorial, State, local and general news, well selected miscellany and valuable farmers' and household departments. Reaching so many households in this and other states, the limited space given to advertising is very valuable to business men.

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Societies Occupying Mercury Hall.

MALBONE LODGE No. 93, N. E. O. P., William H. Thomas, Warden; James H. Goddard, Secretary; meets 1st and 3d Thursday evenings in each month.

THE NEWPORT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, Richard Gardiner, President; Thomas Fieldhouse, Secretary; meets 1st and 3d Wednesday evenings of each month.

REDWOOD LODGE, No. 11, K. of P., James F. Beaumont, Chancellor Commander; Robert S. Franklin, Keeper of Records and Seals; meet every Friday evening.

DAVIS DIVISION No. 8, U. R. K. of P., Sir Knight Captain George A. Wilcox; Everett I. Gorton, Recorder; meets first Friday evening in each month.

NEWPORT CAMP, No. 7677, M. W. A., A. A. Page, Ven. Consul; Charles S. Packer Clerk. Meets 2nd and last Tuesday evenings of each month

Local Matters.

A Delightful Trip.

Washington Commandery, K. T., of this city, proposes to join with Narragansett Commandery of Westerly and have a ladies' day outing at Watch Hill, on Monday, September 2d, Labor Day. The Commandery will leave here on the 7 a. m. boat for Wickford. At Wickford Junction they will take the train on the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. for Westerly, where they will be joined by Narragansett Commandery. From Westerly to Watch Hill the journey will be by water, down the raging Pawkatuck river in a steamboat. A beautiful sail of about three-fourths of an hour along the borders of Rhode Island and Connecticut will bring the party to the far famed Watch Hill, with its many hotels, and fine sea view. Here they will be the owners of the elegant Watch Hill House for the rest of the day, and Mine Host Babcock will do his best to make the stay of the Sir Knights and their ladies a pleasant one. Returning to Westerly the visitors will be entertained in the evening by Narragansett Commandery. The arrival home will be at 10:35 p. m. The committee has laid out a very pleasing programme for a day's entertainment.

Patriotic Society.

The American Irish Society, which is a patriotic society, with membership extending all over the United States, will hold its annual meeting and field day in this city as usual on Aug. 29, the anniversary of the battle of Rhode Island. After the business of the society is transacted the members will dine together at the Aquidneck. The President of this Society is Hon. John D. Crimmins of New York. Vice President Theodore Roosevelt is one of the Vice Presidents. Hon. P. J. Boyle, of this city is Vice President for Rhode Island. Hon. John C. Linnehan, Insurance Commissioner of New Hampshire, is Treasurer General. T. Hamilton Murray of Boston is Secretary General and historian. The late Admiral Meade, U. S. N., was the first President of the Society.

The marriage of Mr. Alexander Rennicks of this city and Miss Catherine Daley of Fall River was celebrated at the rectory of the church of SS. Peter and Paul in Fall River on Saturday last. Mr. and Mrs. Rennicks are enjoying a trip to the White Mountains and will reside in Newport on their return.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Newport Casino was held on Monday when the four retiring members of the board of governors were re-elected to serve four years. They are George R. Fearing, Egerton L. Winthrop, John Jacob Astor, and John Clinton Gray.

The Rhode Island Society, Sons of the Revolution, will dine together as usual on the Anniversary of the Battle of Rhode Island, Aug. 29th. The committee who have the affair in charge are Geo. E. Vernon, Wm. G. Landers and Clarence A. Wrightington.

The New Shoreham.

First Trip of New Block Island Steamer was a Decided Success—Distinguished Party on Board.

The long looked for and anxiously awaited steamer New Shoreham is at last an actual entity. The Steamer arrived at Block Island for the first time on Saturday last and was received with cheers and applause. The first trip was eminently satisfactory, as have been all her subsequent trips thus far.

By invitation of the Town Commissioners, Dr. J. C. Champlin, Lorenzo Littlefield and J. Truman Dodge, a large party was prepared to make the first trip on the new boat.

The steamer New Shoreham left the wharf at the foot of Transit street, Providence, at 9:45 o'clock Saturday morning for her first trip to Block Island. All the way down the Providence River and Narragansett Bay she was given a general ovation, and her powerful whistle was kept busy acknowledging with three whistles the salutes which were accorded her. At Field's Point a pretty salute was given her by the waiters there, who assembled on the shore and beat upon pans and kettles.

The first stop was at Newport where more passengers were taken on board. The steamer left here at 11:55.

Among the guests on board by invitation of the Commissioners were the following: Judge and Mrs. E. C. Dubois, General Charles R. Brayton, Senator E. A. Perrin, Hon. George A. Littlefield, Senator Christoper E. Champlin, Hon. Ray G. Lewis, Hon. John J. Watson, Jr., Hon. Thomas C. Carr, Hon. Samuel L. Peck, Judge Rathbun, Gen. John M. Brennan, Messrs. Hamilton A. Mott, Alton H. Mott, Aaron W. Mitchell, Edward P. Champlin, Leon Mott, Thaddeus A. Ball, Winfield S. Dodge, Martin V. Ball, W. Talbot Dodge, quite a party of newspaper men and others.

As the boat pulled into the dock at Newport three hearty cheers were given her by those assembled there. Quite a party was already on board but when the entire party of over 200 had stowed themselves away their presence was hardly felt on the capacious vessel. About seventy five persons went from Block Island to Newport on the Danielson in the morning for the purpose of enjoying the sail back on the new boat and in the party were included some of the prominent residents of the town and guests of the leading hotels.

As the steamer pulled out through Newport harbor and out through the channel she was saluted by nearly all the steamers and yachts lying in the harbor. The old Danielson lying at her dock in the harbor greeted her new confrere with three blasts of her whistle which were of course returned.

As the New Shoreham passed by Beavertail the sharp chop of the sea was noticeable. The steamer rode remarkably steadily, however, and although there was quite a heavy sea on she pitched but little and rolled not at all. The remarkable smoothness of the trip was favorably commented upon by the passengers. The draught of the vessel, 11 feet, accounted for this. The engines ran with remarkable smoothness, notwithstanding their newness.

At the Sandy Point Life Saving Station a display of signal flags was run up on the flag staff, and as the New Shoreham passed the point the colors were dipped in salute.

From Sandy Point to the dock in the new harbor was but a short trip. Just outside the entrance to the harbor the steamer was slowed down to half speed and crossed the harbor slowly. On the dock an immense crowd was waiting and the whistle of the New Shoreham was kept busy acknowledging salutes.

There was some little delay in getting tied up at the dock owing to the light hawsers used. Across the street a short distance up the wharf a banner was strung across the street from Alton Mott's, bearing the words: "Welcome to the New Shoreham; Thanks to our Senator."

The first trip of the New Shoreham was a success in every particular. The engines were run at two-thirds speed and there was a headwind and tide, yet the trip from Newport to Block Island was done within two hours. It is claimed that one and one-half hours will be her running time from Newport.

The New Shoreham's passengers spent a couple of hours looking over the island and took the same steamer back to Providence, leaving at 4:30 o'clock.

Coming home, the invited guests manifested the pleasure they had experienced in a way peculiarly fitting. The Senators, Representatives and others gathered on the hurricane deck and passed resolutions. Col. Frank F. Olney was chosen Chairman of the meeting. After briefly announcing his purpose, Senate Reading Clerk White read the following resolutions:

Whereas, Through the courtesy of the Commissioners of the town of New Shoreham, a most delightful day has been passed on board the steamer the New Shoreham, be it

Resolved, That the guests on board the New Shoreham during this, her trial trip to Block Island, do hereby extend their thanks to the Commissioners for the courtesies shown on this occasion, and record their admiration of the enterprising spirit displayed by the citizens of New Shoreham in a venture which by means of this commodious and handsome vessel under the able and experienced captaincy of Lemuel A. Dodge, must tend to bind the island town more closely to the rest of the State; and be it further

Resolved, That the guests present unite in most earnest wishes that this enterprise which has had so auspicious a beginning, may have a successful and prosperous future.

Gen. Brayton moved their passage and the motion was seconded by Representative Littlefield of Providence, who in so during paid the town of New Shoreham a very pretty compliment on its enterprise. Brief speeches were made by Senator Parker of Coventry, Senator Lewis of Barrington and ex-Lieut. Gov. Wardwell.

The Artillery Carnival.

The Caswell lot on Broadway, more generally known as the "flat iron" lot, has this week been a busy place, the occasion being the carnival of the Newport Artillery Company. The carnival was given for the purpose of raising money to purchase new uniforms for the company. The attendance has been large all the week and a considerable sum will probably be realized. The carnival has been opened afternoon and evening.

On the Caswell lot three large tents were erected. Within these tents were the usual prettily decorated booths such as are usually seen at fairs, but there were also many other attractions. In the summer theatre, a very creditable vaudeville show was given, and after ten o'clock the tent was given to dancing. The exhibition of Philippine war relics from the collection of Col. A. A. Barker contains many curiosities from the far east and was quite an attractive feature. Shooting galleries, African dodgers, ringing canes, etc., were well patronized. The various booths in charge of the feminine friends of the company were very attractive. The "midway" was patronized by smokers and others.

The Newport Military Band furnished music in the afternoon and evening and headed the street parade every evening. The following prizes were offered:

Columbia electric automobile, $750; rubber tired runabout, $125; eight day trip to Buffalo, $75; 50 bushels of oats, $25; Highland Foundry kitchen range, $35; silver tea set, 5 pieces, $50; buggy harness, $35; china dinner set, 130 pieces, $40; banquet lamp, $35; hammerless shot gun, $40; chest of silver, 42 pieces, $50; Eastman Kodak, $30; 500 "Brunswick" cigars, $50; Turkish rug, size 10x14, $50; brass mounted bed, woven wire mattress, $35; complete gentleman's outfit, $40; elegant diamond ring to the person selling the largest number of season tickets, $50.

Automobile Races.

The city council having given permission to hold automobile races on the Ocean Drive on Friday, August 30, the committee is proceeding rapidly with the arrangements. The races will be held on Friday afternoon from 2 to 4 o'clock, the course being from "Crossways" on Ocean avenue around the drive and back to the starting point. Elaborate arrangements have been made for policing the course, 80 special officers being employed.

The programme of races is as follows.

First race—For tricycles and two-wheeled vehicles, for first and second prizes, the first given by Mrs. John R. Drexel.

Second race—For all classes of steam-propelled vehicles, for two prizes, the second donated by Mr. John R. Livermore.

Third race—For electric racing machines.

Fourth race—Special class for De Dion 5-horse-power vorturettes in ordinary running trim, for prizes offered by Messrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and H. O. Havemeyer.

Fifth race—For gasoline vehicles, not to develop more than 12-horse-power.

Sixth race—For gasolene machines developing over 12-horse-power, for prizes offered by Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and Mrs. Hermann Oelrichs.

Seventh race—For winners in the several races, first prize offered by Mr. O. H. P. Belmont.

Duncan Elliott has been appointed by the President a 1st Lieutenant in the regular Army. He was an officer in the 26th U. S. Volunteers. His wife lately obtained a divorce from him in the Rhode Island courts.

The National Lawn Tennis Tournament will commence Tuesday, August 13, play being called each morning at 10:30.

The Gardner Property.

Curious Collection Left by Sarah E. Gardner has been Sold for the Children's Home—A Peculiar Case.

For the past three weeks the ladies who are interested in the Home for Friendless Children have been engaged in assorting and pricing the miscellaneous property left to the Home by the late Sarah E. Gardner, the aged colored woman who left a large amount to charity. To the Home Mrs. Gardner gave practically all her wearing apparel, household furniture and miscellaneous articles with which her house was filled. This quantity of stuff was removed to the Covell Block on Thames street and there assorted and priced. This week a sale of the goods has been held by the Directors of the Children's Home and considerable money has been realized. This collection of goods was inventoried at $200 but much more than that has been realized from the sale and a number of articles, including a handsome parlor set, have been taken to the Home for use there.

The circumstances attending the legacy are most interesting. Miss Gardner was a colored woman who had lived in Newport all her life. Her mother was an Indian who was accidently killed some thirty years ago. The daughter in her younger days was well known as a smart worker and her services were in demand among summer visitors and permanent residents. She was a hard working woman all her life and in her later years was employed as a scrub woman. She had few intimate friends even among those of her own race, but lived alone in her house on Caleb Earl street, although a colored family occupied another tenement in the same building. She had a soft place in her heart for children and animals and always had a few pets about the house. She was known to be frugal and industrious and it was supposed had saved a little property.

On Sunday, May 20, 1900, Miss Gardner was found dead in her home. She had not been seen for several days and the house was opened. She was found lying on a sofa in the kitchen and life was extinct. She was 70 years old. Her house was found to be in a remarkable condition. Every room was filled with various articles which she had collected during her life. There were complete suits of furniture, beds, sofas, tables, vases, chairs, wearing apparel of various kinds, some trimmed with genuine lace and some of the cheapest description; books in large numbers; kitchen utensils, statuary, etc. Whatever came into her possession was carefully hoarded. She would fill a room completely, even to laying a makeshift flooring of boards over one tier in order to get more articles into the room. As a room was filled she would lock it up and apparently not enter it again. The house was completely filled with goods in this way. Even the kitchen was so full of stuff that, although she had many beds, there was no room to set up a bed for sleeping purposes, and she died on a sofa.

After her death a will was probated with Lewis L. Simmons as executor. By the terms of this will she directed the executor to give to whoever cared for her in her last illness whatever of her wearing apparel, household furniture, etc., he might see fit, leaving the amount to his discretion. The rest of the contents of her house was to be given to the Home for Friendless Children. All the rest and residue of her estate was left in trust to the Rhode Island Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Besides the house in which she lived and other real estate Miss Gardner left personal property valued at about $25,000. According to the inventory filed by the executor there was on deposit in the National Bank of Rhode Island, $22,185.49; in the Island Savings Bank, $1,004.11; in the Coddington Savings Bank, $494.45; in the Providence Institution for savings $1,011.39. Gold and silver coins found in the house and cash from Lewis L. Simmons made $89.45 more, and her household furniture, goods and chattels in the house on Caleb Earl street made a total of $24,984.89 in personal property only. Her real estate is valued by the assessors of taxes at $4,500.

Miss Gardner was a spiritualist in belief and apparently had more or less sentiment in her make up. There was in her shed a large pile of wood cut by her mother before her death some thirty years ago and this Mrs. Gardner always declined to use. She made several wills before her death and found it difficult to decide to whom to leave her property. As she expressed it, whomever she named in her will always died before she did. She finally decided upon the beneficiaries named, probably because of her fondness for animals and children.

Miss Gardner owned a lot and monument in the City cemetery where she is buried. It is proposed to expend the sum of $600 from her estate for vases, etc., for her grave.

City Council.

Permission Granted to Hold Automobile Races on Ocean Avenue.

The regular monthly meeting of the city council on Tuesday evening was of importance only because of the action taken on a petition to close certain streets for automobile races on August 30. The request of the petitioners was granted in so far as the desired permission to hold races is concerned but it was found illegal to close any streets.

The report of the finance committee was received and bills were ordered paid from the several appropriations as follows:

City Asylum,	$ 1,651 60
Fire Department,	1,111 97
Hose Tower,	1,160 41
Board of Health	2,387 07
Parks,	117 82
Police,	670 12
Poor,	220 70
Schools,	5,470 71
Streets,	9,971 59
Public Buildings	507 72
Lighting Streets,	4,709 16
Books, Stationery and Printing,	152 95
Incidentals,	27 53
Thomas Chapman Estate,	10 51
Burial Grounds,	85 00
Touro Jews' Synagogue Fund,	10 00
Ward Meetings,	3 00
Dog Fund,	30 00
	$27,838 59

A petition was presented and received, signed by many summer residents and a number of Newport business men, asking for permission to hold an automobile race on the Ocean Drive Friday, August 30, between the hours of 2 and 4 p. m., or, in case of rain, on the following day, the race to start at "Crossways" going toward the old polo ground, along Harrison avenue and along the drive, ending at the foot of the hill near "Crossways." The petition further stated that the race would be supervised and controlled by the National Automobile Racing Association and representatives of the city council. Protests against granting this petition were received from Theodore M. Davis, S. E. Huntington and A. Agassiz.

A resolution was drawn and presented, covering the matter asked for in the petition. City Solicitor Burdick was then called upon for an opinion and stated that the streets could not be closed and that the statutes of the state provided that vehicles might not be run over the highways at more than common speed. After some discussion the common council passed the resolution and the board of aldermen concurred, Alderman O'Neill voting in the negative. The committee of the city council to supervise the races is composed of Alderman Bliss and Councilmen Ward and Shanahan.

On recommendation of the committee on streets and highways resolutions were adopted authorizing work as follows: To macadamize Bridge street, from Thames street to Hammond court and from Third street to Washington street, at a cost of $1,200; to lay a gutter and flagwalk in Gidley street, at a cost of $500; to curb the north side of Van Zandt avenue between Hall avenue and Homer street, and to build catch basins at a cost of $1,100; to turnpike and macadamize Hunter avenue from Catherine street to Champlin street, at a cost of $650, and to macadamize Stone street, at a cost of $400.

The committee on public property recommended an appropriation of $400 be made for lightning rods for the city hall, but the accompanying resolution was defeated in the common council. A resolution was accepted authorizing the curbing and grading of Battery street at a cost of $2,500.

The bond of Clarence A. Hammett, city treasurer, for $50,000, was approved, with Albert Hammett, Frederick Tompkins, Henry Bull, Jr., and William C. Scott as surettes. The payment of $62.50 to David M. Coggeshall for services was authorized. A protest from the Jamestown town council in regard to swill on the town beach was referred to the board of health. The monthly report of the board of health was received and the board was authorized to sell certain swill carts. An invitation to attend the dedication of the addition to the city asylum was received and accepted. The report of the clerk of the finance committee was received. A petition for repairs to Meeting street was referred to the committee on streets and highways.

In joint convention John P. Hammond was elected a member of Hose company 3, and William Edward was elected a constable to serve civil process.

The board of aldermen granted a plumber's license to William R. Saulpaugh. From the dog fund the following damages were ordered paid: Mrs. Quinlan Sullivan, $31.90; C. F. Gilroy, $7.90; Jose de Sousa, $30.10; Robert Hall, $12.40. A petition asking that Fillmore street be declared a public highway was referred to the committee on streets and highways.

Three clever female pickpockets have been run down by the police and sent to Providence county jail for 60 days on charges of larceny. Much of the property stolen was recovered.

J. Pierpont Morgan's steam yacht Corsair was in collision with two other yachts in the East River, New York, this week. None of the yachts was seriously injured.

Recent Deaths.

Romeo E. Gladding.

On Saturday of last week Romeo E. Gladding died at his residence on Coddington street from pleuro-pneumonia, after an illness of a little more than two weeks. While he was considered to be seriously ill, yet his family and friends hoped for his recovery, so his death came as a heavy blow to them. He was well known in the city, where he had grown up from boyhood, and had made a wide circle of friends and acquaintances. For some years he was in the employ of Mr. T. J. Lee, in the fish business, and for the past two years he and Mr. C. A. Easterbrooks had conducted a fish market on Broadway, which had proved a success from the start, known as the Broadway Cash Fish Market. A widow and two children, Miss Fannie Gladding and Master Harry Gladding, survive him.

The deceased was the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin H. Gladding, and a brother to Messrs. Edward M. and Lewis A. Gladding, of this city, and Mrs. J. Williard Case, of Shelter Island, N. Y.

The funeral took place from his late residence on Coddington street Tuesday afternoon and was very largely attended, Rev. Charles H. Porter, rector of the Channing Memorial Church, officiating. The bearers were Messrs. John Dennis, Perry Sumner, Henry Young and Charles Dennis. The floral tributes were most numerous and beautiful, and were a touching tribute to the esteem in which the deceased was held.

The interment was in the Old Cemetery.

Benjamin Hall.

Benjamin Hall of Portsmouth died very suddenly Monday afternoon. He had visited the farm of John Compasso and had started for home driving a drove of cows when he dropped dead. Medical attendance was at once procured, but he had died instantly. His family was notified and the body was removed to his late residence.

Mr. Hall was well known in Portsmouth and also in this city. He owned a large piece of property at Portsmouth Grove which he recently sold to the United States government and which will be the site of the new coaling station.

He leaves a widow, two sons and one daughter. Funeral services were held at the Friends' Meeting House on Thursday and were largely attended.

Henry C. Burdick.

Henry C. Burdick died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. John F. Scott, Tuesday afternoon. Death came very suddenly, although he had been in poor health for a year or more. He was aged 74 years.

Mr. Burdick was one of the old time Newporters, equally at home on land or sea. He learned the painter's trade, but followed the sea for a number of years. He went to California in '49, during the gold fever, and upon returning to Newport engaged in business as a house painter, retiring some three years ago. He was a founder and one of the hardest workers for the success of Weenat Shassit Tribe of Red Men. He leaves two daughters, Mrs. H. H. Smith and Mrs. John F. Scott.

Mrs. Margaret Fagan.

Mrs. Margaret Fagan, widow of the late Luke Fagan, died at her home Sunday after a long illness. The deceased had a wide circle of friends and was a devout worshipper at St. Mary's church, being one of the original members. She leaves two children, Mrs. Arthur P. Jennings and Mr. James T. Fagan.

The funeral took place from St. Mary's church Tuesday morning, where a large gathering had congregated to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased.

Lieutenant Commander Cresap.

Lieutenant Commander Cresap, U. S. N., died Wednesday at the Norfolk navy yard of blood poisoning. He was well known in Newport, being stationed on training ship New Hampshire in 1880-1, at the Torpedo Station in 1882, training ships Jamestown and Constellation in 1892 and 1893. During the Spanish war he served on the Vicksburg, and in March, 1899, was promoted to lieutenant commander.

Mrs. Alex. Barney.

Mrs. Barney, wife of Alexander Barney, of the Boston freight office, died at her home on Second street Monday, after a long illness. Mrs. Barney was a great sufferer and had submitted to several operations, hoping that they might be beneficial, and for a time she seemed better, but the relief was only temporary, and she passed away Monday, having endured great suffering.

A husband, two daughters and three sons survive her.

Mrs. James G. Gregory.

Mrs. Eliza Morgan Gregory of Washington died in her apartments at Bateman's on Tuesday evening after a long illness. She was the widow of James Gilbert Gregory and was a member of the old Morgan family of Staten Island. She leaves a son, Eliot Gregory, the well known artist of New York.